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2	BEFORE THE ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION						
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4	IN THE MATTER OF:)						
5	SHAWN J. O'FARRELL,) KAZMIER TOOLING, INC.,)						
6	Complainant,)) No. 11-0589						
7	vs.)						
8	COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY ,)						
9	Respondent.) Complaint as to						
10	billing/charges in Chicago,) Illinois)						
11	,						
12	Chicago, Illinois November 10, 2011						
13	Met, pursuant to notice, at 11:00 a.m.						
14	BEFORE:						
15	MR. JOHN RILEY, Administrative Law Judge						
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Т	APPEARANCES.				
2	WD				
3	MR. SHAWN J. O'FARRELL 6001 South Oak Park Avenue Chicago, Illinois				
4	for Complainant pro se;				
5	LAW OFFICES OF MARK L. GOLDSTEIN, by MR. MARK L. GOLDSTEIN				
6	3019 Province Circle Mundelein, Illinois 60060				
7	for Respondent.				
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9					
10	SULLIVAN REPORTING COMPANY, by Ann M. Rogers, CSR				
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2	Witnesses: Dir		- Re-			
3	Mr. William Mue	eller	82, 100			
4	Mr. Shawn O'Far		02, 100			
5	MI. Blidwii O I di		86			
6	Mr. Miguel Mast	ache 96	97			
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9		<u>E X H I B</u>	I T S			
10	Number	For Identifi	cation	In Evidence		
11	Complainant's	129	129			
12	Respondent's					
13		38	130			
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- 1 (Whereupon, ComEd Exhibit
- Nos. 1-4 were marked for
- identification.)
- 4 JUDGE RILEY: Pursuant to the direction of the
- 5 Illinois Commerce Commission I call Docket 11-0589.
- 6 This is a complaint by Shawn J. O'Farrell and Kazmier
- 7 Tooling, Inc. vs. Commonwealth Edison Company as to
- 8 billing and charges in Chicago, Illinois.
- 9 Mr. O'Farrell, you are still
- 10 proceeding without counsel at this point; is that
- 11 correct?
- MR. O'FARRELL: I'm --
- JUDGE RILEY: You're still proceeding without
- 14 counsel at this point; is that right?
- MR. O'FARRELL: Right. I couldn't get a lawyer
- 16 to represent me.
- 17 JUDGE RILEY: All right. Mr. Goldstein, are
- 18 you here on behalf of Commonwealth Edison?
- 19 MR. GOLDSTEIN: That's correct, Judge.
- 20 JUDGE RILEY: Please enter an appearance.
- 21 MR. GOLDSTEIN: For Commonwealth Edison Company
- 22 Mark L. Goldstein, 3019 Province Circle, Mundelein,

- 1 Illinois 60060. My telephone number is
- 2 (847) 949-1340. I have with me today Monica Merino
- 3 of ComEd as well as two witnesses, William Mueller
- 4 and Miguel Mastache.
- JUDGE RILEY: Thank you.
- 6 Mr. O'Farrell, your mailing address is
- 7 6001 South Oak Park Avenue in Chicago; is that
- 8 correct.
- 9 MR. O'FARRELL: Yes, sir.
- 10 JUDGE RILEY: And your business telephone
- 11 number is (773) 586-0300?
- MR. O'FARRELL: Yes, sir.
- 13 JUDGE RILEY: I'm going to begin with you,
- 14 Mr. O'Farrell, inasmuch as you have brought the
- 15 complaint.
- 16 Would you, in a narrative style,
- 17 please inform the Court or this forum as to what it
- is you're complaining about and what action by
- 19 Commonwealth Edison caused you to file this
- 20 complaint.
- 21 MR. O'FARRELL: They back-billed me for two
- 22 years on a charge of excess equipment, I guess. I'm

- 1 not sure because of the draft, it mentions five or
- 2 six, they have it circled, but I think it's excess
- 3 equipment that they had installed in the alley.
- 4 JUDGE RILEY: Can I interrupt you one second.
- 5 (Witness sworn.)
- 6 JUDGE RILEY: Please proceed. I had to
- 7 administer the oath, please proceed.
- 8 MR. O'FARRELL: All right. And at that time I
- 9 filed a complaint.
- 10 We tried -- first, we have to decipher
- 11 because we do now have a new server -- or seller of
- 12 electricity to us. They're not -- we have Edison as
- 13 the provider and there is another service called
- 14 MC Squared that sells us the electricity. So we had
- 15 a cryptic message from them stating that we had a
- 16 late charge -- or not a late charge, but a back-pay
- 17 for two years on a bill, and that from now on we were
- 18 going to be charged a rental fee on the transformers
- 19 in the alley that provides my business with the
- 20 electricity I need to do business.
- JUDGE RILEY: Now, why were the transformers
- 22 installed in the alley?

- 1 MR. O'FARRELL: Commonwealth Edison chose to do
- 2 that.
- 3 JUDGE RILEY: Do you have any idea why they
- 4 chose to do that?
- 5 MR. O'FARRELL: I requested the service.
- 6 JUDGE RILEY: And for what reason?
- 7 MR. O'FARRELL: So I could run my business.
- 8 JUDGE RILEY: You needed additional electricity
- 9 to operate your business; is that fair?
- 10 MR. O'FARRELL: I needed that electricity to
- 11 run my business. I couldn't actually run my business
- 12 without it.
- 13 JUDGE RILEY: And is this the business at
- 14 6001 South Oak Park Avenue?
- MR. O'FARRELL: That's one of the addresses,
- 16 yes.
- 17 JUDGE RILEY: And that's Kazmier Tooling?
- MR. O'FARRELL: Yes.
- JUDGE RILEY: Who is this other entity that
- 20 you've been dealing with?
- 21 MR. O'FARRELL: Pardon me?
- JUDGE RILEY: Who is this other entity that you

- 1 say you've been getting power from?
- 2 MR. O'FARRELL: I wasn't getting power from any
- 3 other entity.
- 4 JUDGE RILEY: I thought you just mentioned that
- 5 you did.
- 6 So you get billed directly by
- 7 Commonwealth Edison; is that correct?
- 8 MR. O'FARRELL: No, no. By MC Squared who is
- 9 the biller.
- 10 What happened is that your -- Illinois
- 11 Commerce Commission about five, six, seven years ago
- 12 decided that Commonwealth Edison should open up their
- 13 doors and let other businesses come in and sell their
- 14 power, correct?
- 15 JUDGE RILEY: All right.
- MR. O'FARRELL: And that's what happened. So
- 17 they sell it to us I think at a discount cheaper than
- 18 Commonwealth Edison and that's why we went to them.
- 19 JUDGE RILEY: Who -- okay. What I'm not
- 20 following is what is your relationship? If you're no
- 21 longer getting power from Commonwealth Edison --
- 22 MR. O'FARRELL: I'm buying power from

- 1 MC Squared who buys it from Commonwealth Edison.
- 2 Do you think that MC Squared should be
- 3 here, too?
- 4 JUDGE RILEY: I don't know. I don't know. But
- 5 you --
- 6 MR. O'FARRELL: That's who paid them.
- JUDGE RILEY: You got the bill from
- 8 Commonwealth Edison for \$2,000.
- 9 MR. O'FARRELL: No, I got the bill from
- 10 MC Squared.
- JUDGE RILEY: Do you have a copy of that bill?
- MR. O'FARRELL: I do.
- 13 JUDGE RILEY: Show it to me.
- 14 MR. O'FARRELL: I have to dig out the original.
- 15 Here's a copy. I brought some other bills that were
- 16 just Edison's portion, but I do have that bill
- 17 because I wanted an explanation by Edison of what the
- 18 bill pertains to so we can get this resolved.
- 19 This is the original bill that was
- 20 sent to us for April of this year with Commonwealth
- 21 Edison's portion and this is what we received.
- JUDGE RILEY: This is a bill directly from

- 1 Commonwealth Edison to Kazmier Tooling for \$2,081.28.
- 2 MR. O'FARRELL: That didn't come directly to
- 3 me, it goes through MC Squared. They know that.
- 4 JUDGE RILEY: But your account -- but according
- 5 to this, the account is not with MC Squared, the
- 6 account is with -- Kazmier Tooling's account is with
- 7 Commonwealth Edison, that's what it says here.
- 8 MR. O'FARRELL: There is something confusing,
- 9 then because I'm billed by MC Squared. MC Squared
- 10 has paid Commonwealth Edison, all right, for all the
- 11 fees. Now, they're back-charging me and they realize
- 12 what's going on. They're not charging me late fees
- anymore for the -- because I haven't paid them.
- 14 JUDGE RILEY: It says Commonwealth Edison and
- 15 Kazmier Tooling. Kazmier Tooling is the account
- 16 holder and there is the sum that was directly billed
- 17 to you.
- 18 MR. O'FARRELL: This is who I pay.
- 19 JUDGE RILEY: Mr. Goldstein, can you shed any
- 20 light on this.
- 21 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Yeah, Judge, if you would allow
- 22 me.

- 1 MC Squared is the supplier of the
- 2 energy to Kazmier Tooling. The delivery system, in
- 3 order to get the energy to Mr. O'Farrell's place of
- 4 business is provided by ComEd, they have their wires,
- 5 the poles and so on and so forth to deliver the
- 6 energy.
- 7 JUDGE RILEY: When Mr. O'Farrell received a
- 8 bill for \$2,081 in April did that come from
- 9 MC Squared or did it come from Commonwealth Edison?
- 10 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I believe it was ComEd.
- JUDGE RILEY: I'm sorry?
- 12 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I believe it was ComEd.
- 13 MR. O'FARRELL: That's not true. That's not
- 14 true.
- 15 Actually, ask him if that bill was
- 16 paid. We didn't pay it, but MC Squared paid it.
- 17 MR. GOLDSTEIN: The bill was paid.
- MR. O'FARRELL: By MC Squared, not us. I owe
- 19 MC Squared that bill. They bill MC Squared, they do
- 20 not bill me.
- JUDGE RILEY: Well, if Commonwealth Edison was
- paid, then why did you file a complaint against them?

- 1 MR. O'FARRELL: Because MC Squared paid them,
- 2 not me. I am being billed by MC Squared for that
- 3 money.
- 4 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Judge, we have a witness who
- 5 probably can describe this better if you would allow
- 6 us, when the witness comes on the stand, to do this.
- 7 Maybe that would clear everything up for you.
- 8 JUDGE RILEY: Very possibly. Then we'll wait
- 9 until that point. Well, let me just ask a few more
- 10 questions of Mr. O'Farrell.
- 11 With regard to the -- well, do you
- 12 know why you were billed the extra, that \$2,000?
- 13 MR. O'FARRELL: It took me until June to figure
- 14 that out, yeah.
- JUDGE RILEY: Please explain.
- MR. O'FARRELL: Well, I didn't -- we tried to
- 17 call Commonwealth Edison and it's not very clear,
- 18 okay. So we had to go through MC Squared, we tried
- 19 to get a confirmation or an explanation through
- 20 Commonwealth Edison and they had a hard time getting
- 21 it and it took until -- I think if I have -- they
- 22 have two dates of letters that they sent to my

- 1 provider in May, the 25th and May 24th, which I have
- 2 copies of that explained why we were given it, but
- 3 that was not until May and that's upon our request.
- 4 JUDGE RILEY: What is the explanation is what I
- 5 want to know.
- 6 MR. O'FARRELL: They're claiming that I have
- 7 excess equipment in the alley to provide me with my
- 8 service, the transformer block that's in the alley is
- 9 in excess of what I need for my business to run and
- 10 they want to back-rent me for two years for the
- 11 transformers and then they want to charge me a
- 12 monthly fee after that.
- 13 JUDGE RILEY: So they have told you that they
- 14 are billing you for rental --
- MR. O'FARRELL: Right.
- 16 JUDGE RILEY: -- of the transformer that's in
- 17 the alley that provides the addition power to your
- 18 business.
- 19 MR. O'FARRELL: Which was installed back in
- 20 1993 with no rental fee, no charge. I mean, there
- 21 was a charge to me, it took \$2,900 that I had to pay
- 22 upfront to Edison, which they have a copy, but it's

- 1 not in my name, it's in another individual's name.
- JUDGE RILEY: Other than the bill, do you have
- 3 any other notice from Commonwealth Edison that you
- 4 are being charged?
- 5 MR. O'FARRELL: Before that?
- 6 JUDGE RILEY: At any time that you were being
- 7 charged rent.
- 8 MR. O'FARRELL: We get our first notice -- I
- 9 got my first notice in May.
- 10 JUDGE RILEY: That's May of this year?
- MR. O'FARRELL: Yes.
- 12 JUDGE RILEY: Do you have that?
- 13 MR. O'FARRELL: I have notices where they sent
- 14 MC Squared, but nothing that they sent me. These
- 15 are -- let me go back and get them all.
- 16 It's all basically the same thing of
- 17 when they're dated and when they were sent is another
- 18 story. And I have received copies from Monica as of
- 19 yesterday notifying me that -- they said they sent it
- 20 to me, but it was sent to my provider and it's all
- 21 the same thing.
- 22 JUDGE RILEY: Are you saying MC Squared never

- 1 notified you?
- 2 MR. O'FARRELL: Pardon me?
- JUDGE RILEY: MC Squared never notified you?
- 4 MR. O'FARRELL: We notified MC Squared.
- 5 All MC Squared said is they sent us a bill with all
- 6 the excess charges on it in March, you know, for
- 7 April's bill and at that time the alarm bell went off
- 8 and we contacted MC Squared. We tried to contact
- 9 Edison, but since we no longer have the service with
- 10 Edison we had to go through MC Squared, so
- 11 MC Squared has got to go through them. See, there's
- 12 a buffer zone, you know.
- 13 JUDGE RILEY: So Commonwealth Edison billed
- 14 MC Squared.
- MR. O'FARRELL: Right.
- 16 JUDGE RILEY: And MC Squared passed that cost
- 17 along to you for \$2,081.
- MR. O'FARRELL: So now I owe it to MC Squared.
- 19 MC Squared paid them without an explanation, for what
- 20 reason maybe that's in their contract they have to do
- 21 that, I don't know. It's all the same letter, if I
- 22 run across another one, I'll let you know. Here's an

- original. (Tendering.) I have our messages through
- 2 MC Squared to us trying to resolve this dated in May.
- 3 JUDGE RILEY: You have three different notices
- 4 here May 12, May 25 and March 24, 2011 all to care of
- 5 MC Squared Energy.
- 6 MR. O'FARRELL: Yeah, nothing to me.
- JUDGE RILEY: But why, then, do you have a bill
- 8 from Commonwealth Edison directly to Kazmier Tooling?
- 9 MR. O'FARRELL: I'm not in charge of how
- 10 Commonwealth Edison bills MC Squared, all right,
- 11 because that's what's going on. I don't see that.
- JUDGE RILEY: My point, Mr. O'Farrell, is that
- they didn't bill MC Squared, they sent the bill
- 14 directly to you.
- MR. O'FARRELL: No, they didn't. I get a
- 16 bill -- what happened, Sir, is they send it to
- 17 MC Squared, MC Squared pays it and then sends me a
- 18 copy of it and bills me on top of it.
- JUDGE RILEY: Show me the bill again.
- 20 MR. O'FARRELL: Did you give it back to me?
- JUDGE RILEY: Yes, I did.
- 22 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Judge, it might be helpful if

- 1 we handed up the bill to you.
- JUDGE RILEY: Let the record reflect that I've
- 3 been handed a copy of a bill, the issue date is
- 4 March 28, 2011.
- 5 Let me see yours.
- 6 MR. O'FARRELL: (Tendering.) This is what I
- 7 have with me.
- 8 JUDGE RILEY: The one thing that was missing
- 9 from the copy that you had is the address down at the
- 10 bottom that says that Kazmier Tooling is served care
- of MC Squared Energy, but the account number is in
- 12 the name of Kazmier Tooling and the service address
- of 6001 South Oak Park Avenue in Chicago.
- 14 JUDGE RILEY: Let's go off the record and take
- 15 a brief recess. I'll be back.
- 16 (Whereupon, a recess was taken.)
- JUDGE RILEY: Mr. O'Farrell, my question is to
- whom are you obligated to pay that \$2,086? According
- 19 to your understanding, who do you have to pay that
- 20 to?
- MR. O'FARRELL: MC Squared now.
- 22 JUDGE RILEY: Then why did you file the

- 1 complaint again Commonwealth Edison?
- 2 MR. O'FARRELL: Because Commonwealth Edison
- 3 billed MC Squared who bills me. And I told
- 4 MC Squared that I refuse to pay that portion of the
- 5 bill, but they said it's too late, we paid that. And
- 6 then I said that I will -- from now on I will pay the
- 7 charge, contest it until this is resolved and I said
- 8 I filed a complaint and they said, Well, continue
- 9 with that and we'll see what happens now.
- 10 JUDGE RILEY: Has MC Squared told you that you
- are obligated to pay them the \$2,000?
- 12 MR. O'FARRELL: No. They said, Resolve this
- 13 situation, then at that time they will see whether I
- am obligated to pay them or not.
- JUDGE RILEY: All right. What I'm going to do
- 16 is hold your case in abeyance for the time being and
- 17 I'll recall you later.
- 18 Mr. Goldstein, I want to turn to you.
- 19 Do you have a witness that can clear this up?
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: Yes, I do.
- JUDGE RILEY: Can you please call that witness.
- 22 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I'd like to call

- 1 William Mueller.
- 2 (Witness sworn.)
- WILLIAM M. MUELLER,
- 4 called as a witness herein, having been first duly
- 5 sworn, was examined and testified as follows:
- 6 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 7 BY
- 8 MR. GOLDSTEIN:
- 9 Q Mr. Mueller, please state your name and
- 10 spell your name for the record.
- 11 A My name is William M. Mueller,
- W-i-l-l-i-a-m, M-u-e-l-l-e-r.
- 13 Q By whom are you employed and in what
- 14 capacity?
- 15 A I'm employed by ComEd and I'm currently a
- 16 principal rate administrator in the Retail Rates
- 17 Department.
- 18 Q And you've heard the testimony thus far
- 19 this morning that Mr. O'Farrell has given; have you
- 20 not?
- 21 A Yes.
- 22 Q Let me show you a ComEd bill with an issue

- 1 date of March 28, 2011.
- 2 And could you first explain the
- 3 delivery and supply relationship that is indicated on
- 4 that bill?
- 5 A Yes. Kazmier Tooling receives their energy
- 6 supply from MC Squared and they are considered to be
- 7 a retail electric supplier. When a customer takes
- 8 their energy supply from a supplier other than
- 9 ComEd, they also have the option of receiving a
- 10 single bill which has the combination of the energy
- 11 supply charges and the delivery charges from ComEd.
- 12 When they choose to take a single bill
- under a single bill option, they will get one bill
- 14 through their supplier, which is MC Squared, which
- 15 has the combination of the energy supply charges and
- 16 the delivery charges of ComEd. So all the bills that
- 17 ComEd would issue for delivery would go to
- 18 MC Squared and then from MC Squared to the customer.
- 19 JUDGE RILEY: So MC Squared bills the customer
- 20 for the amount?
- 21 THE WITNESS: Correct.
- 22 JUDGE RILEY: And then MC Squared returns that

- 1 money to Commonwealth Edison; is that correct?
- THE WITNESS: Right.
- 3 JUDGE RILEY: Is it your understanding then
- 4 that Mr. O'Farrell's complaint should be against
- 5 MC Squared?
- 6 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I guess that calls for a legal
- 7 conclusion, Judge.
- JUDGE RILEY: Well, here's the problem,
- 9 Mr. Goldstein. He's objecting to the rental for the
- 10 transformers that were installed by
- 11 Commonwealth Edison back in 1991.
- 12 MR. O'FARRELL: 1993.
- 13 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Those charges for the rental
- 14 are charges of Commonwealth Edison Company. And so I
- don't know how else to state it other than that.
- 16 Those are ComEd charges that Mr. O'Farrell is
- objecting to. He's not objecting to the energy
- 18 charges that have been charged by MC Squared, he's
- 19 objecting to the rental charges which are part of the
- 20 delivery charges that ComEd bills.
- JUDGE RILEY: Right. It's a ComEd charge that
- 22 he's objecting to. So ComEd is properly here then?

- 1 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I would say so.
- JUDGE RILEY: Thank you, Mr. Mueller.
- 3 Mr. O'Farrell, did you have any
- 4 questions for Mr. Mueller?
- 5 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I have a lot more to say with
- 6 Mr. Mueller if you'd like me to proceed.
- 7 JUDGE RILEY: Proceed.
- 8 BY MR. GOLDSTEIN:
- 9 Q Could you explain, Mr. Mueller, what the
- 10 purpose of your testimony is today?
- 11 A Yes, I'm here to describe ComEd's tariff
- 12 provisions and the Commission's rules pertaining to
- 13 the practice of back-billing for up to two years in
- 14 the case of non-residential customers for unbilled
- 15 non-standard equipment and to bill the customer
- 16 moving forward for the non-standard equipment and any
- 17 charges to the customer for the cost of removal of
- 18 non-standard equipment if the customer chooses.
- 19 Q What is meant by the term "standard
- 20 service and "standard equipment facilities"?
- 21 A Standard service provided by ComEd is
- 22 service sufficient to meet the customer's normal

- 1 maximum kilowatt demand load occurring during peak
- 2 period hours at a single point at a minimum of
- 3 85 percent power factor. And the equipment and
- 4 facilities used to provide standard service is called
- 5 standard equipment or facilities.
- 6 Q How are the costs recovered from standard
- 7 equipment facilities?
- 8 A ComEd recovers the cost of standard
- 9 equipment or facilities in the monthly customer bills
- 10 charged under the applicable rates.
- 11 Q And could you now describe what is meant by
- 12 non-standard equipment facilities?
- 13 A Non-standard equipment facilities is the
- 14 equipment facilities in place requested or required
- by the customer that is in excess of standard
- 16 equipment or facilities and in ComEd's
- 17 Tariff Rider NS, non-standard services and facilities
- on Sheet 277 it states, if larger, more or different
- 19 services are required or requested by the retail
- 20 customer, ComEd is allowed to recover from the retail
- 21 customer the cost of furnishing, installing, owning,
- 22 operating, replacing and maintaining such services or

- 1 facilities. Such larger, more or different services
- 2 or facilities are designated in this rider as
- 3 non-standard services and facilities.
- 4 Q And what you're referring to, which
- 5 Illinois Commerce Commission No. 10 original sheet
- 6 No. 277 has been marked as ComEd Exhibit 1; is that
- 7 correct?
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q And how are costs for non-standard
- 10 equipment recovered?
- 11 A The cost of non-standard equipment such as
- 12 transformers and protective equipment like fuses,
- 13 cutouts and arresters are recovered through monthly
- 14 rentals applied to the customer's monthly bill as
- 15 allowed under Rider NS. The rental amount charged is
- 16 the difference between the rental amount of standard
- 17 equipment and the actual equipment in place requested
- 18 or required by the customer.
- 19 Q How does that apply in this case?
- 20 A The customer, Kazmier Tooling, is served by
- 21 more and larger transformers than those needed to
- 22 provide standard electric service.

- 1 O And could you please describe the
- 2 Commission's rule that pertains to ComEd's practice
- 3 to back-bill for up to two years in the case of
- 4 nonresidential customers for unbilled non-standard
- 5 equipment.
- 6 A 83 Illinois Administrative Code Part 280
- 7 Section 100 allows that a utility can back-bill for
- 8 up to two years in the case of nonresidential
- 9 customers. There is nothing if the Public Utility
- 10 Act that would limit the enforcement of this rule.
- 11 This provision also allows a customer to enter into a
- 12 finance-free payment plan equal to the length of time
- 13 the customer was back-billed.
- 14 O We have marked 83 Illinois Administrative
- 15 Code 288.100 as ComEd Exhibit No. 2; is that correct?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q Let's now discuss ComEd's tariff provisions
- 18 relating to charging the customer for the cost to
- 19 remove non-standard equipment if the customer chooses
- 20 this option.
- 21 Would you describe that?
- 22 A Yes, Rider NS, non-standard services and

- 1 facilities Sheet 277 states in part, If a retail
- 2 customer requests or requires the removal of company
- 3 facilities and such removal is reasonably and
- 4 technically feasible, has no significant adverse
- 5 impact on the company system with respect to
- 6 reliability or efficiency such removal is performed
- 7 by the company provided the company is allowed to
- 8 recover the cost of removing such facilities from
- 9 such retail customer, including the cost consequences
- 10 of any applicable federal or state income tax
- 11 liability.
- 12 Q And do you understand the policy behind
- 13 placing this cost on Kazmier Tooling in the tariff?
- 14 A Yes, as a general rule of tariff
- 15 construction utilities match costs with costs
- 16 causers. Many of the tariff sections contain
- 17 provisions with similar allocation and cost. Here,
- 18 the customer may choose to modify his existing
- 19 facilities which will result in a cost imposed on
- 20 ComEd, it is more appropriate for the customer to
- 21 bear this cost for changing the facilities than
- 22 requiring other rate payers to bear that cost.

- 1 Q Do you have anything else that you wish to
- 2 provide for the record as part of your testimony?
- 3 A No, I do not.
- 4 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I have nothing else of the
- 5 witness, Judge. I would move into evidence ComEd
- 6 Exhibits 1 and 2?
- JUDGE RILEY: 1 and 2?
- 8 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Yes.
- 9 JUDGE RILEY: Okay. I'm going to hold a ruling
- 10 on that in abeyance for the time being.
- Mr. O'Farrell, do you have any
- 12 questions for Mr. Mueller with regard to the
- 13 testimony he testified to.
- MR. O'FARRELL: Yes.
- 15 CROSS EXAMINATION
- 16 BY
- 17 MR. O'FARRELL:
- 18 Q You're reading off documents that are dated
- January 15, 2009; is that correct?
- 20 A Rider NS.
- 21 Q All right. Now, like I said, these
- transformers were installed back in '93. All right.

- 1 Now, it seems to me that --
- 2 JUDGE RILEY: Are you addressing a question to
- 3 Mr. Mueller?
- 4 MR. O'FARRELL: Yes.
- 5 JUDGE RILEY: Okay.
- 6 BY MR. O'FARRELL:
- 7 O Now, the cost of these transformers are
- 8 '93's costs. Is the rental fees based on the
- 9 installation in '93 or installation as if it was in
- 10 '09?
- 11 A The rentals are based on the rental amounts
- 12 that were in effect in 1993.
- 13 Q All right. Then we have the -- they sent
- 14 me this document, Monica did, that states the rent at
- 15 that time was \$17.35.
- JUDGE RILEY: A month? A day?
- 17 MR. O'FARRELL: A month?
- 18 JUDGE RILEY: Again, do you have a question for
- 19 Mr. Mueller?
- MR. O'FARRELL: That was it.
- 21 BY MR. O'FARRELL:
- Q Did you see this document?

- 1 A Yes, I did.
- 2 Q All right. Is that true?
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q All right. Then why would it 17 --
- 5 18 years later go up to \$84.35?
- 6 A Back in 1993 when you requested your second
- 7 point of service and ComEd installed the 3-167 kVA
- 8 transformer bank at that time based on information
- 9 provided your load was 430 kilowatts, estimated to be
- 10 430 kilowatts --
- 11 Q Not off that bank.
- 12 JUDGE RILEY: Hold on. Let him finish the
- answer, please.
- 14 THE WITNESS: Total load, meaning the total at
- 15 the new point of service and your existing point of
- 16 service.
- 17 And so at that point in time because
- 18 you had two transformations ComEd -- and you're
- 19 allowed to have a standard transformation -- at that
- 20 time because based on your total load the standard
- 21 transformation was determined to be 3-167 kVA
- 22 transformers.

- 1 BY MR. O'FARRELL:
- Q With maximum capability?
- 3 A Just let me finish here.
- 4 So in the rental amount in the 1993
- 5 service request document you had a rental amount that
- 6 was based on the two transformers that were in place
- 7 and less the rental amount of the standard
- 8 transformer, which was just the 3-167 kVA
- 9 transformers.
- 10 Today your load is not 430 kilowatts,
- 11 it's significantly less, it's a little over
- 12 100 kilowatts. So the standard transformer that's
- 13 needed to serve your load today is much less than
- 14 3-167 kVA transformers. And so the standard rental
- 15 amount that is a credit provided against the rental
- 16 amounts of what you actually have out there is less.
- 17 So the difference between those two numbers has gone
- 18 up.
- 19 O Am I credited for when I did use the
- 20 amount?
- 21 A I'm not sure I understand.
- 22 Q Well, obviously the amount of electricity

- 1 that I use is used to base these -- whether it's
- 2 excess or not excess.
- 3 A Right.
- 4 Q So at the point -- we have a point of
- 5 maximum usage on this letter back in '93 of 430 from
- 6 both -- that's maximum. There is no minimum listed,
- 7 no minimum listed at all. So that leaves it wide
- 8 open for you to declare what the minimum would be.
- 9 What was the minimum in '93?
- 10 A Well, the 1993 -- when we size facilities
- 11 we base it on the maximum. It makes no sense to base
- 12 it on the minimum because --
- 13 Q In this situation is what I would think,
- 14 no?
- 15 A No, because if we base the facilities on
- 16 your minimum load, when you exceed that minimum load
- 17 the facilities would fail.
- 18 Q No, no. That's not what I mean because at
- 19 the maximum you would not charge me rental, I was
- 20 told that. If I was using the maximum amount of kVAs
- 21 that was possible to use and I was paying for them,
- 22 then I would not be charged this rental fee. But

- 1 because of the downturn in the economy that the whole
- 2 country has suffered, including Commonwealth Edison
- 3 and myself, Commonwealth Edison, the powers that be
- 4 there have decided to invoke something that they had
- 5 passed into law or did something in 2009 that makes
- 6 them available to turn around and charge me excess
- 7 rent on equipment that I no longer have the business
- 8 to demand the amount of electricity. But not to say
- 9 that won't change in the future, all right, and
- 10 that's not saying that you have any output there to
- 11 change that in the future that you would take that
- 12 bill and take it away. But because now we have a
- downturn in the economy you have an outlet to turn
- 14 around and charge me for equipment that was put in 20
- 15 years ago -- or 17 years ago and you want to turn
- 16 around and say because I have a downturn in my
- 17 business and you have a downturn in your business
- 18 we're going to make the situation for you work.
- 19 JUDGE RILEY: Mr. O'Farrell, this is a speech
- 20 now. There doesn't seem to be a question pending.
- 21 MR. O'FARRELL: That's a question.
- 22 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Do you want to respond to that,

- 1 Mr. Mueller?
- JUDGE RILEY: Can you respond to it?
- 3 THE WITNESS: Yes. We agree that your usage
- 4 today is not as high as it was when it was estimated
- 5 back in 1993. Your monthly bill that you pay today
- 6 is less because your usage is less.
- 7 MR. O'FARRELL: I disagree.
- 8 JUDGE RILEY: Excuse me. It's not -- we're not
- 9 in an argument, Mr. O'Farrell. Please let him answer
- 10 the question.
- 11 THE WITNESS: So the facilities that are out
- there serving your business, there are two
- 13 transformations out there. They're still out there,
- 14 they're still serving you, they're still an
- investment out there made by ComEd. And since the
- 16 cost recovery is not coming through the monthly
- 17 usage, the question is how does that cost get
- 18 recovered? Does it get recovered either through the
- 19 customer that's using the facilities or through some
- 20 other method, which normally would be through other
- 21 rate payers. The Public Utilities Act states that
- 22 the cost should be imposed on the cost causer. It's

- 1 ComEd's view that Kazmier Tooling is the cost causer
- 2 in this instance.
- 3 BY MR. O'FARRELL:
- 4 O Not business?
- 5 A I'm not sure what you mean.
- 6 Q The cost causer as you use that term is
- 7 because of business to me, otherwise I would be using
- 8 the service gladly if I had the demand for my
- 9 business, but I don't. Will I in the future, I'm
- 10 hoping to, depending on what we can do about bringing
- 11 manufacturing back to this country, which is another
- 12 subject altogether, but it has to do with the
- 13 situation. The situation --
- 14 JUDGE RILEY: No, this is a speech.
- MR. O'FARRELL: All right.
- 16 JUDGE RILEY: Did you have any further
- 17 questions?
- MR. O'FARRELL: Yeah, there is one more.
- 19 BY MR. O'FARRELL:
- 20 O When does Commonwealth Edison or how does
- 21 Commonwealth Edison recover the cost through the
- 22 normal procedures? This, like I said, these have

- 1 been installed since '93, what percentage of the cost
- of these transformers has Commonwealth recovered?
- 3 Because I know what I paid in my electric bills since
- 4 then. I've got that number, I've got a round figure
- of \$210,000. I don't know what this bank of
- 6 transformers costs. I know I paid to have them
- 7 installed, \$3,000, I have the check number written
- 8 out in 1993, but how long does it take for
- 9 Commonwealth Edison to recover that cost? Is there a
- 10 formula for that? There should be.
- 11 A If you're referring to the rental amounts
- 12 on the transformers.
- 13 Q The cost of the transformers. Not the
- 14 rental, the cost of the transformers.
- 15 A Well, the cost of the transformers is paid
- 16 by ComEd at the time they purchase the transformers.
- 17 Q Based on the rental fee that was paid by
- 18 the company. As I understand what you're telling me
- 19 you have to recover that cost?
- 20 A The rental fee --
- 21 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Let him answer the questions
- 22 will you, please.

- 1 JUDGE RILEY: I've got it, Mr. Goldstein.
- 2 Mr. Mueller, please continue.
- 3 THE WITNESS: The rental fees recover the
- 4 purchase price cost of the transformers over a period
- of 30 years. The monthly charges recover the cost,
- 6 the purchase price of the cost of those transformers
- 7 over 30 years, that's the basis for the monthly
- 8 rental --
- 9 BY MR. O'FARRELL:
- 10 Q I misheard you, I heard two things here. I
- 11 heard monthly cost, monthly cost of the billing?
- 12 A The monthly rentals.
- 13 Q I didn't pay a monthly rental fee.
- 14 A We understand that and that's one of the
- 15 reasons why we're here is that you should have been
- 16 paying a monthly rental.
- Q Why wasn't I?
- JUDGE RILEY: Continue with your answer,
- 19 Mr. Mueller.
- 20 THE WITNESS: ComEd bills monthly rentals for
- 21 transformers and in that rental it recovers the
- 22 cost -- the purchase price cost of the transformers

- 1 themselves and also any maintenance of those
- 2 transformers. That is all in the monthly rental
- 3 that's billed to the customer.
- 4 BY MR. O'FARRELL:
- 5 Q Well, how did they not charge me a monthly
- 6 rental fee?
- 7 A That was a mistake on ComEd's part. They
- 8 should have billed you for the rental ever since 1993
- 9 when those transformers were installed.
- 10 O Can you prove that to me?
- 11 A Can I prove it to you? It's based on the
- 12 tariffs that were in effect in '93 and are still in
- 13 effect.
- 14 O That there isn't, like, another customer
- out there with a bank of transformers that doesn't
- 16 receive --
- 17 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I'm going to object.
- JUDGE RILEY: What's your objection?
- 19 MR. GOLDSTEIN: It's irrelevant what other
- 20 customers are doing, it's Mr. O'Farrell and
- 21 Kazmier Tooling's complaint.
- 22 JUDGE RILEY: He has a point, Mr. O'Farrell.

- 1 What other customers -- I don't even think
- 2 Mr. Mueller can answer that question, whether or not
- 3 there are other customers that aren't being billed at
- 4 the present time.
- 5 MR. O'FARRELL: He said that was a mistake by
- 6 Commonwealth Edison. I don't believe that was a
- 7 mistake. There is no proof to me, there should be a
- 8 way of proving that to me, that it was a mistake.
- 9 JUDGE RILEY: Your testimony was that there
- 10 were tariffs in effect at the time that provided --
- 11 that allowed ComEd to bill back in 1993 for the
- 12 rental of those transformers.
- 13 THE WITNESS: Correct.
- JUDGE RILEY: All right. The testimony is what
- 15 it is.
- 16 MR. O'FARRELL: I don't have a tariff. I have
- 17 a signature.
- 18 JUDGE RILEY: The tariffs aren't filed with
- 19 you, the tariffs are filed with the Commission.
- MR. O'FARRELL: This is a document, it's not
- 21 addressed to me, I don't know who this person is, but
- 22 it's about my company and it has to deal with the

- 1 tariff at the time and this is what I received
- 2 yesterday. All right. This is what they failed to
- 3 give me. But I don't know if that was for me or
- 4 somebody else because it's my company, but it's not
- 5 me.
- 6 JUDGE RILEY: Mr. Goldstein, it's the -- I
- 7 believe it's ComEd Exhibit 4 that he's referring to.
- 8 It's been marked as Exhibit 4.
- 9 Were you going to have testimony to
- 10 that later on?
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: Yes, we will, Judge.
- 12 JUDGE RILEY: All right.
- 13 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Maybe Mr. O'Farrell could
- 14 reserve his questions with respect to this document
- 15 to the next witness.
- 16 JUDGE RILEY: That's what I was going to
- 17 suggest. It hasn't even been testified to yet, so
- 18 there hasn't been any foundation for it.
- 19 Did you have anything further for
- 20 Mr. Mueller?
- 21 MR. O'FARRELL: I believe that Commonwealth --
- 22 JUDGE RILEY: My question was did you --

- 1 MR. O'FARRELL: All right.
- 2 BY MR. O'FARRELL:
- 3 Q Is there any way that Commonwealth recovers
- 4 any of the cost of the transformers in their billing?
- 5 You would have to break down the billing for me to
- 6 explain it because it doesn't state that and I
- 7 brought three bills here asking that question.
- Is there any recovery in the electric
- 9 that you provide for the cost of the transformers?
- 10 A Yes.
- 11 0 This is besides the rental?
- 12 A The monthly bill that ComEd issues
- 13 customers for standard service includes cost recovery
- 14 for standard facilities which includes transformers.
- 15 In your case, your standard transformers were the
- 16 3-167 kVA transformers. But you have more that
- 17 3-1673 kVA transformers. So, therefore, the rental
- 18 applies for the excess of the transformation that's
- 19 serving your business.
- 20 O So the standard is the three kVA
- 21 transformers and the excess is the single?
- 22 A The excess is the difference, right,

- 1 between the standard transformers and what the actual
- 2 transformers are that are actually out there serving
- 3 your business.
- 4 O Now, the new services was the three
- 5 transformers I had installed?
- 6 A Correct.
- 7 Q The old service was the single transformer.
- 8 So shouldn't I be renting the single transformer?
- 9 A Back in 1993 the rental amount that was
- 10 determined back then it never got billed. Yes, that
- 11 was the difference between the 3-167s and the total
- of the 3-167s and the other transformer bank that was
- 13 out there.
- 14 O Now, the other question I have for you on
- my usage you said is well under 100 now?
- 16 A It was a little over 100 kilowatt. Your
- 17 maximum demand usage in the last three years was a
- 18 little over 100 kilowatts.
- 19 Q Now, would it be wrong for me to ask you
- 20 what it was in the overall period of the transformers
- 21 usage?
- 22 A In the past 20 something years? I can't --

- 1 Q No, 17.
- 2 A I don't have those records. I can't answer
- 3 that.
- 4 Q All right. Because here's the situation,
- 5 it's a downturn in the economy?
- 6 JUDGE RILEY: All right -- strike that.
- 7 Do you have any other questions for
- 8 Mr. Mueller?
- 9 MR. O'FARRELL: No.
- 10 JUDGE RILEY: Thank you.
- 11 Mr. Mueller, thank you for your
- 12 testimony. We may be recalling you later, I don't
- 13 know.
- 14 Mr. O'Farrell, I want to turn back to
- 15 you and continue with your direct examination with
- 16 regard to your complaint. And thus far it's my
- 17 understanding that you filed this complaint because
- 18 you had, without notice or warning, received a bill
- 19 for \$2,000.
- MR. O'FARRELL: A past notice bill.
- JUDGE RILEY: For \$2,081.28 with a notice that
- 22 you were going to have to pay \$86.72 going forward

- for rental on transformers --
- 2 MR. O'FARRELL: Monthly.
- JUDGE RILEY: For monthly rental on
- 4 transformers that had been installed back in -- you
- 5 said 1993.
- 6 Did you at any time when those -- what
- 7 was the cost -- again, tell me what was the reason
- 8 that you needed the transformers installed? Why were
- 9 they installed?
- 10 MR. O'FARRELL: I needed it to provide me with
- 11 enough electricity to run my business at maximum
- 12 peak.
- 13 JUDGE RILEY: All right. Understood. And at
- 14 that time did Commonwealth Edison come out and
- install those transformers?
- 16 MR. O'FARRELL: They did. Now, who decided
- 17 what size transformers they were, that was
- 18 Commonwealth Edison's decision.
- 19 JUDGE RILEY: Understood. But at any time did
- 20 they tell you that you were going to have to pay rent
- 21 on those transformers, did they tell you at the time
- 22 they installed it?

- 1 MR. O'FARRELL: No.
- 2 JUDGE RILEY: When did you first find out that
- 3 you were going to have to pay rent for those
- 4 transformers?
- 5 MR. O'FARRELL: April of 2011.
- 6 JUDGE RILEY: All right. And did you ever sign
- 7 a rental agreement to your knowledge?
- 8 MR. O'FARRELL: No. Never.
- 9 JUDGE RILEY: Is there anything else that you
- 10 want to tell the Court with regard to your complaint?
- 11 MR. O'FARRELL: Just that I paid \$210,000 in
- 12 the last 17 years in electric bills and I don't know
- 13 what formula they use to collect the cost on the
- 14 electric bills, and that would be nice to know to see
- if they've already received the cost of the
- 16 transformers in the last 17 years and how do they
- 17 base their charge of \$86.84.
- 18 JUDGE RILEY: To your knowledge --
- MR. O'FARRELL: They haven't been replaced,
- 20 they're still the same equipment that was there.
- 21 There has been no maintenance on them.
- 22 JUDGE RILEY: Are you saying the same

- 1 transformers that were installed in 1993 exist today?
- 2 MR. O'FARRELL: Yes. Correct.
- JUDGE RILEY: There -- to your knowledge, did
- 4 anyone that works for you ever sign a rental
- 5 agreement?
- 6 MR. O'FARRELL: No, to my knowledge.
- 7 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Judge, you know, we could
- 8 recall Mr. Mueller to discuss the fact that there was
- 9 no signed rental agreement if you'd like.
- 10 JUDGE RILEY: But it's Mr. O'Farrell's
- 11 testimony that I want.
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: I understand that.
- 13 JUDGE RILEY: To your knowledge, were any of
- 14 your employees ever told that there was going to be a
- rental charge for those transformers?
- MR. O'FARRELL: Now, this could be an outside
- 17 contractor, no.
- 18 JUDGE RILEY: I'm saying any of your employees.
- 19 MR. O'FARRELL: No, not to my knowledge or my
- 20 permission.
- JUDGE RILEY: No foreman. No manager. No one
- 22 like that in your employ.

- 1 All right. I don't have any further
- 2 questions for Mr. O'Farrell at this time.
- 3 Do you have any cross-examination?
- 4 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I have no cross-examination. I
- 5 would like to call Mr. Mueller back to discuss the
- 6 issue of the rental agreement.
- JUDGE RILEY: Okay. Mr. Mueller, you're still
- 8 under oath and this is continuing direct examination
- 9 of Mr. Mueller.
- 10 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
- 11 BY
- MR. GOLDSTEIN:
- Q Mr. Mueller, you've heard Mr. O'Farrell
- 14 state that there was no signed rental agreement.
- 15 Could you address that issue?
- 16 A Yes. Normally when a customer requests
- 17 service and they request non-standard service ComEd
- 18 would prepare documents that would list standard
- 19 facilities and also the required facilities that are
- 20 in place or will be in place after the service
- 21 request is met. Those are developed under the
- 22 guidelines in the tariff and in accordance with the

- 1 tariff and that is the basis for the charges. ComEd
- 2 normally provides a document to the customer listing
- 3 and showing what those transformer facilities are and
- 4 what the associated charges are. I cannot say
- 5 whether or not those documents were provided back
- 6 17 years ago or who they may have been provided to
- 7 but that's the normal course of how we operate.
- 8 JUDGE RILEY: Anything further?
- 9 BY MR. GOLDSTEIN:
- 10 Q Let's assume that there was no signed
- 11 rental agreement between Kazmier Tooling and ComEd,
- 12 does ComEd still have the ability to charge rental
- 13 charges for the non-standard facilities out at
- 14 Kazmier Tooling?
- 15 A ComEd is obligated to operate and bill
- 16 under the tariff. And under the tariff, yes, it had
- 17 the ability and the obligation to bill for those
- 18 facilities.
- 19 O And that's under the non-standard service
- 20 tariff?
- 21 A It would be under Rider NS.
- 22 Q That you've already discussed in your

- 1 testimony?
- 2 A Yes.
- 3 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I have nothing else.
- 4 JUDGE RILEY: Any further questions for
- 5 Mr. Mueller based on what he's just testified to?
- 6 RECROSS EXAMINATION
- 7 BY
- 8 MR. O'FARRELL:
- 9 Q Are we talking about the single transformer
- or the triple transformer?
- 11 A We're talking about both.
- 12 Q Well, one is the standard service and one
- is a non-standard?
- 14 A Correct.
- 15 Q All right. So we can't talk about both if
- 16 we're talking about non-standard equipment, can we?
- 17 A Well, in order to determine the monthly
- 18 rental that's due we have to know what is actually
- 19 out there. What is out there is actually two
- 20 transformations. Your standard transformation is a
- 21 single transformation.
- Q That I share?

- 1 A No. Both of those transformations are
- 2 serving your business.
- 3 O But one is shared with other residential
- 4 customers?
- 5 A One of them is a community bank, which can
- 6 be shared with others.
- 7 O It is.
- 8 A And in those cases where a customer takes
- 9 service from a community bank, the rentals are based
- 10 only on your share or that portion of that community
- 11 bank. So in determining the rental amounts for your
- 12 case you had the community bank that was already
- 13 there existing and then you also had the transformers
- 14 that were installed in 1993, okay. Those were your
- 15 required transformers. Your standard transformers
- 16 back in 1993 were determined to be 3-167 kVA
- 17 transformers.
- 18 Q And who determined that?
- 19 A ComEd determines that based on information
- 20 provided by the customer.
- 21 Q Now, in the past, 20 years ago, did
- 22 Commonwealth Edison ever tell a customer, Hey, you

- 1 might as well go bigger because at some time or
- 2 another if you keep expanding you might need more
- 3 power?
- 4 A No.
- 5 Q That was never said to a customer by
- 6 Commonwealth Edison, never?
- 7 A No. We always base it on what the customer
- 8 tells us. I will say that customers do sometimes ask
- 9 us to put in larger transformers because they expect
- 10 to expand their business or increase their load, but
- 11 we don't do that on our own.
- 12 Q You would never recommend that to a
- 13 customer? Because that was recommended to me?
- 14 A I would say as a policy ComEd --
- 15 Q Because it would be the same --
- 16 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I have to object now, Judge,
- 17 because he's arguing with the witness.
- JUDGE RILEY: Mr. Mueller, please complete your
- 19 answer.
- THE WITNESS: As a policy, ComEd would not make
- 21 recommendations, we would only meet what the
- 22 customer's request is. So if they determine that,

- 1 Hey, we think we're going to grow and we want to put
- 2 in something a little larger, then we'll do that for
- 3 them, but we would never do it on our own.
- 4 BY MR. O'FARRELL:
- 5 Q Again, you would do that, though?
- 6 A If we were requested to.
- 7 O In a discussion with a customer?
- 8 A If we were requested to, we would do it.
- 9 O In a discussion with the customer?
- 10 A It would have to be a formal request, then
- 11 we would do it.
- 12 Q All right. The conversation I had was
- 13 that.
- JUDGE RILEY: Any further questions?
- MR. O'FARRELL: No.
- 16 EXAMINATION
- 17 BY
- JUDGE RILEY:
- 19 Q Mr. Mueller, is it my understanding that
- 20 Commonwealth Edison just erroneously failed to bill
- 21 for the rental on those transformers from 1993 up
- 22 until April of 2011?

- 1 A Yes.
- 2 Q And is there any explanation from ComEd as
- 3 to why that mistake occurred?
- 4 A I can't say why that occurred.
- 5 JUDGE RILEY: All right. Thank you,
- 6 Mr. Mueller.
- 7 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Again, I would move into
- 8 evidence ComEd Exhibits 1 and 2.
- 9 JUDGE RILEY: We're going to deal with those
- 10 later. I want to get back to Mr. O'Farrell just to
- 11 do some housekeeping here.
- 12 SHAWN J. O'FARRELL,
- 13 called as a witness herein, having been first duly
- 14 sworn, was examined and testified as follows:
- 15 EXAMINATION
- 16 BY
- 17 JUDGE RILEY:
- 18 Q Are you the owner of Kazmier Tooling?
- 19 A I am.
- 20 Q Are you the sole owner of Kazmier Tooling?
- 21 A No. My son has 20 percent and will
- 22 continue to receive a little bit every year until I

- 1 retire. Hopefully, if it's still available.
- 2 Q For now you're an 80 percent owner; is that
- 3 correct?
- 4 A Yes.
- 5 Q And is it my understanding that the name on
- 6 the Commonwealth Edison account is Kazmier Tooling,
- 7 it's not your personal name; is that correct?
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q All right. What is Kazmier Tooling? What
- 10 kind of a business is that?
- 11 A I manufacture tooling for the manufacturing
- 12 industry. So I have six machines that require a
- large amount of electricity to run, and right now I'm
- 14 running at about 50 percent.
- Q What kind of tools do you manufacture?
- 16 A I manufacture press brake tooling.
- 17 Q I'm sorry?
- 18 A Press brake tooling for fabricating sheet
- 19 metal and then products that sell to everybody. You
- 20 know, most manufacturers buy my tools if they
- 21 manufacturer still in this country.
- 22 Q And that's what's been going on at the

- 1 Kazmier Tooling since 1993 since the transformers
- 2 were installed?
- 3 A Yes, sir.
- 4 Q And it goes on to the present day; is that
- 5 correct?
- 6 A Pardon me?
- 7 Q It goes on to the present day, you're still
- 8 doing that work to the present day; is that correct?
- 9 A Yes, sir. Not at the capacity I did, but
- 10 I'm still doing it.
- 11 Q Understood. I believe that's everything I
- 12 have for Mr. O'Farrell for right now.
- 13 Mr. Goldstein, do you have any
- 14 cross-examination?
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: I have no questions of
- 16 Mr. O'Farrell.
- JUDGE RILEY: Mr. O'Farrell, I'm going to
- 18 conclude that we've finished your case in chief, that
- 19 you have set forth the details of your complaint.
- I'm going to turn to Mr. Goldstein, do
- 21 you have another witness you want to call?
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: Yes, I do. I call

- 1 Miguel Mastache.
- 2 (Witness sworn)
- 3 MIGUEL MASTACHE,
- 4 called as a witness herein, having been first duly
- 5 sworn, was examined and testified as follows:
- 6 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 7 BY
- 8 MR. GOLDSTEIN:
- 9 Q Mr. Mastache, please state your name for
- 10 the record and spell your name.
- 11 A My name is Miguel Mastache, M-i-g-u-e-l,
- M-a-s-t-a-c-h-e.
- 13 Q And by whom are you employed and in what
- 14 capacity?
- 15 A I am employed by ComEd and currently a
- 16 senior engineering design technician at the Chicago
- 17 South headquarters.
- 18 Q And how long have you been employed by
- 19 ComEd and please tell us what other departments you
- 20 have worked at at ComEd?
- 21 A I have worked for ComEd for eight years
- 22 entirely in the New Business Department.

- 1 Q And what are your duties as a senior
- 2 engineering design technician?
- 3 A My duties are to be the single point of
- 4 contact with our customers while designing and
- 5 project managing their service request projects. I
- 6 am also responsible for determining the size of the
- 7 equipment needed based on existing engineering
- 8 standards and practices adopted by the company.
- 9 Q What is the purpose of your testimony
- 10 today?
- 11 A I am here to describe the facilities
- 12 serving Kazmier Tooling's account and the charges
- 13 applicable to the facilities used to serve Kazmier.
- 14 O And you went out and personally did an
- audit at Kazmier Tooling; is that correct?
- 16 A That is correct.
- 17 Q Let's begin by describing the facilities
- 18 serving the Kazmier Tooling account.
- 19 A On June 30, 2011 I found the customer was
- 20 connected to a 120/240 transformer bank consisting of
- 21 a 15 kVA transformer and a 25 kVA transformer. The
- 22 customer was also connected to a 277/480 volt

- 1 transformer. This was a bank of 3-167 kVA
- 2 transformers wired to provide 277/480 volt service.
- 3 Q And the date that you went out to
- 4 Kazmier Tooling was what date?
- 5 A June 3, 2011.
- 6 Q And that was a field audit that you
- 7 performed on that date; is that correct?
- 8 A That is correct.
- 9 O And did your field audit ComEd's facilities
- 10 that were the basis for the charges listed on a
- 11 letter sent to the customer dated May 25, 2011?
- 12 A The purpose of the field audit was to
- 13 report all facilities found that serve the customer.
- 14 The audit did confirm the installed required
- 15 facilities as referenced on the letter and also
- 16 referenced in the electronic record of the customer's
- 17 last request for a service change in 1993.
- 18 Q And that May 25, 2011 letter has been
- 19 marked as ComEd Exhibit 4 -- 3; is that correct?
- 20 A That is correct.
- 21 Q Let's now -- could you further describe
- 22 what happened when you went out there to the -- what

- 1 is shown on ComEd Exhibit No. 4 -- what is that
- 2 exhibit and what is shown on that exhibit?
- 3 A ComEd Exhibit 4 is the electronic record of
- 4 the 1993 service request indicating an existing
- 5 service from the 120/240 volt transformer consisting
- of the 25 and 15 kVA transformer and a request for a
- 7 second point of service at 277/480 volts based on the
- 8 information provided by the customer at that time.
- 9 3-167 kVA transformers and related protective
- 10 equipment including the fuses, cutoffs and arresters
- 11 were installed to serve an estimated total maximum
- 12 kilowatt demand load of 430 kW.
- 13 The customer's standard transformers,
- 14 based on the total 430 kW were 3-167 kVA
- 15 transformers. That is, ComEd could have served the
- 16 customer, the total of both service points with just
- 17 3-167 kVA transformers. However, the customer
- 18 requested the second point of service at a different
- 19 location and voltage.
- 20 Today, the customer's total maximum
- 21 demand load has been much less than what was built
- for in 1993. The current standard transformers and

- 1 protective equipment are based on the maximum demand
- 2 load from the previous three years. Therefore, the
- 3 transformers today are smaller than the standard
- 4 transformers determined in 1993. Going back three
- 5 years to determine maximum kilowatt demand would
- 6 include months prior to the recent recession that may
- 7 have affected the customer's load.
- 8 O What were the Rider NS non-standard
- 9 services and facilities charges?
- 10 A The non-standard service facilities charges
- 11 are for all equipment that is installed in excess of
- 12 the standard facilities out in the field. In this
- 13 case, the standard was 3-167 kVA transformers in 1993
- 14 and the excess was everything beyond that, including
- the 3-167 kVA transformers and their protective
- 16 equipment and the 25/10 kVA transformer and its
- 17 protective equipment.
- In today's terms the new standard is
- 3-37 and a half kVA transformers at 277/480.
- 20 O That's 277/480 volts?
- 21 A Correct. And that's your current day
- standard and they're currently served by 120/240

- 1 community bank of which they are being charged
- 2 rentals for their portion, which is 2-10 kVA
- 3 transformer based on their demand load on a community
- 4 bank and 3-167 kVA transformers being served at
- 5 277/480 volts.
- 6 Q And specifically what are those charges?
- 7 A The charges are the two required
- 8 transformations at 120/240 and 277/480 volts, the
- 9 arresters and fuses at a combined rental charge
- of \$127.05 based on the 1993 rentals in effect at the
- 11 time. The customer's standard transformer facilities
- 12 at a rental charge of \$38.40 based on the 1993
- 13 rentals in effect at that time. The customer's
- 14 monthly rental charge is zero if their standard
- 15 rental exceeds their required rental amount.
- 16 Otherwise, the monthly rental charge is the
- 17 difference of the required and standard.
- 18 The final rental charge going forward
- 19 in this case is \$86.72 after the removal of a \$1.93
- 20 in franchise costs.
- 21 Based on the standard transformers and
- 22 protective equipment indicated in the 1993 service

- 1 requests, the rentals should have been \$17.55 per
- 2 month. As stated earlier, this amount is based on
- 3 the standard transformation of 3-167 kVA transformers
- 4 at 277/480 volts. After the removal of the franchise
- 5 costs, back-bill is \$374.88 determine by taking the
- 6 17.55 monthly rental for 24 months and crediting the
- 7 1.93 franchise cost for 24 months.
- 8 Q And what is the time period covering the
- 9 two year back-bill?
- 10 A The audit back-bill is from March of 2009
- 11 through March of 2011.
- 12 Q Does this conclude your testimony?
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I have nothing further of the
- 15 witness, Judge. I would move into evidence
- 16 ComEd Exhibits 3 and 4.
- 17 JUDGE RILEY: Thank you. I'm going to hold
- 18 ruling in abeyance pending cross-examination.
- 19 Mr. O'Farrell, do you have any
- 20 questions for Mr. Mastache?
- 21 MR. O'FARRELL: Does the dates of all this back
- 22 rent complies with the date of the notification for

- 1 the Commerce Commission's statements for their new
- 2 MC -- it all complies, it all rotates back to
- 3 November of '09.
- 4 JUDGE RILEY: Is that your question for
- 5 Mr. Mastache?
- 6 CROSS EXAMINATION
- 7 BY
- 8 MR. O'FARRELL:
- 9 Q The question is, is that why it went back
- 10 to March of '09? The rental fees went back to '09,
- 11 is that the last statement that they produced their
- 12 riders was dated January of '09, so that gave you
- 13 permission from the rider to go back to '09 with the
- 14 rental fees?
- 15 A That is outside the realm of my expertise.
- 16 MR. GOLDSTEIN: That's more of a question for
- 17 Mr. Mueller. We would be happy to have Mr. Mueller
- 18 answer that question.
- 19 JUDGE RILEY: In other words, Mr. Mastache, you
- 20 can't answer the question?
- 21 THE WITNESS: That correct.
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: Do you want Mr. Mueller --

- 1 JUDGE RILEY: Let's finish with Mr. Mastache.
- 2 Do you have any other questions for
- 3 Mr. Mastache?
- 4 MR. O'FARRELL: It would just be that I believe
- 5 they comply with each other. They didn't go after
- 6 the rental fees until they passed that.
- 7 JUDGE RILEY: Okay.
- 8 EXAMINATION
- 9 BY
- 10 JUDGE RILEY:
- 11 Q Mr. Mastache, did you conduct a field
- 12 audit?
- 13 A Yes, I did, sir.
- Q Okay. And, again, explain to me what
- 15 triggered the field audit?
- 16 A The field audit was triggered by the
- 17 customer contacting Commonwealth Edison and
- 18 requesting a field audit confirmation of the
- 19 equipment installed.
- 20 Q And when was that request made?
- 21 A I believe it was made in May, I don't have
- 22 the specific date.

- 1 Q May of 2011?
- 2 A That is correct, sir.
- 3 Q And you conducted that field audit
- 4 subsequent to that?
- 5 A That is correct, sir.
- 6 Q And is that -- maybe missing a few steps
- 7 here, but is that what ultimately led to the customer
- 8 getting the bill for \$2,086?
- 9 A No, the audit for the standard and the
- 10 required facilities was done back in March --
- 11 actually I believe in February.
- 12 Q Say that again.
- 13 A The audit process starts with a back office
- 14 audit based on the facilities that are reported to be
- on their account. We determine what is feeding the
- 16 customer and use their loads to determine what their
- 17 standard is.
- 18 Q Is there anything in particular that
- 19 triggers that back office audit?
- 20 A The back office audit is triggered by
- 21 customers that are being served by more than one
- 22 service per our records that are not paying any

- 1 rentals.
- 2 Q And this is something that is routinely
- 3 checked by Commonwealth Edison?
- 4 A It is -- to my understanding it is a
- 5 process that we started in November of 2010.
- 6 Q And what led from there, to your knowledge,
- 7 to the customer calling you for a field audit?
- 8 A I'm sorry.
- 9 Q In other words, there was a back office
- 10 audit?
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 Q And somewhere along the line the customer
- 13 called you for a field audit?
- 14 A Yes. The customer is given the option on
- 15 the letter that presents the charges to contact
- 16 Commonwealth Edison's business hot line to have the
- 17 charges explained to them. And if they request
- 18 confirmation in the field, that request gets routed
- 19 to the office that it pertains to.
- 20 Q I just want to make sure I understand the
- 21 sequence of events. There was a back office audit,
- 22 did that lead to the customer getting that \$2,000

- 1 bill?
- 2 A That is correct.
- 3 Q And is that, to your knowledge, what
- 4 triggered his call to you, to Commonwealth Edison for
- 5 the field audit?
- 6 A That is correct.
- 7 JUDGE RILEY: All right. Thank you. I don't
- 8 believe I have anything further for Mr. Mastache.
- 9 Did you want to direct another
- 10 question to Mr. Mueller.
- MR. O'FARRELL: Yes, but I forgot what it was.
- 12 JUDGE RILEY: Mr. Mueller, I think we have to
- 13 recall you one more time.
- 14 Thank you, Mr. Mastache.
- Do you remember what the question was
- 16 you wanted to ask him?
- 17 RECROSS EXAMINATION
- 18 BY
- MR. O'FARRELL:
- 20 On the maximum demand which is what
- 21 triggers the nonstandard equipment, all right,
- 22 because I don't believe that -- I don't believe that

- 1 the non-standard equipment would have been triggered
- 2 if my usage was up. Okay. So we have a maximum of
- 3 430 kVA but we have no minimum.
- 4 Now, you state that because we have to
- 5 state a maximum, but if we couldn't pull more than
- 6 that, otherwise we could possibly blow up the
- 7 transformer. But that's not why I ask the question.
- 8 I ask the question because maximum is how the billing
- 9 cycle works and how you recover your cost on your
- 10 transformers and within a realm. We have a maximum
- 11 KW usage, we don't have a minimum which would trigger
- 12 your rentals. You'll state that that doesn't happen,
- 13 but in this case I believe it did happen because of
- 14 the minimum usage of the power now that Commonwealth
- 15 Edison wants to recover a rental from it. What is
- 16 the minimum that would cause that to recover off that
- 17 bank of transformers?
- 18 A If I understand what you're trying to get
- 19 at the maximum demand.
- 20 O Is 430.
- 21 A Is the most amount of load that you have
- 22 connected at any one time and that maximum demand

- determines the size of equipment that we have to
- 2 install. The minimum does not determine the size of
- 3 the equipment.
- 4 Now, what has happened since 1993 is
- 5 that your load has been -- has reduced, has been
- 6 reduced.
- 7 Q Not from 1993, but from 2000, yes.
- 8 A Okay. But currently when we look back
- 9 three years, the maximum demand load that is on
- 10 record is now not 430 kilowatts it's a little over
- 11 100 kilowatts.
- 12 O Per month?
- 13 A Yes.
- Q Okay. That's per monthly, that doesn't
- 15 state that on the document. It just says that -- we
- 16 assume it's per month.
- 17 A Yes, it's a monthly amount.
- 18 Q And that's what possibly could have
- 19 triggered the rental?
- 20 A Well, it's what determines the standard
- 21 transformers for the rental amount going forward.
- Q As of what date?

- 1 A As of when the audit was done in March of
- 2 2011.
- 3 Q And it has nothing do with the -- none of
- 4 the supplements that were issued by Commonwealth
- 5 Edison through their tariffs?
- 6 A No. If you're referring to the two-year
- 7 back bill, the reason --
- 8 Q I'm referring to the minimum usage of the
- 9 kVA and then the charge of rental on the unit because
- 10 I was told that -- I was told by an employee of
- 11 Commonwealth Edison -- and I could issue his name --
- 12 but this would not have happened unless the usage was
- way down?
- 14 A Well, if your usage was up at the
- 15 430 kilowatt level you still --
- 16 Q Let's say it was 330, down 100.
- 17 A Okay. If your usage was at 330 we would
- 18 determine what is the standard transformer to serve
- 19 330 at a single point. Now, you have two
- 20 transformers that serve two points. So we look at
- 21 what is the rental amount pertaining --
- 22 Q I have a bank of transformers and a single

- 1 transformer that's a common transformer used with
- 2 other people?
- 3 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Mr. O'Farrell, could you please
- 4 let the witness answer question fully and then you
- 5 can ask another question. It gets very confusing
- 6 when you keep interrupting.
- 7 JUDGE RILEY: Objection sustained.
- 8 Mr. Mueller, please finish your
- 9 answer.
- 10 THE WITNESS: The two transformers that are out
- 11 there one of them is a community bank as you point
- 12 out and the amount that you get billed for that
- 13 community bank, though, is only based on the size of
- 14 the bank that would be required to serve only your
- 15 load. For instance, what's actually out there is a
- 16 15 kVA and a 25 kVA transformer. What is being
- 17 billed for in your rental amount going forward is
- 18 2-10 kVA transformers. So you're not getting billed
- 19 in the rental for the full size of that community
- 20 bank.
- The 3-167 kVA transformers, you are
- 22 the only one that is using those transformers. Those

- 1 are the ones that were requested in 1993. So that
- 2 rental amount you are getting charged the full amount
- 3 for that.
- 4 BY MR. O'FARRELL:
- 5 Q And is this common for all usage now? If I
- 6 had a single point of service would this rental go
- 7 away?
- 8 A If you had a single point of service and
- 9 that service was sized for what your maximum demand
- 10 load is at the time there would be no rentals.
- 11 Q So if I were to turn around and take the
- 12 common service?
- 13 A Community.
- 14 Q And put that in a different name, would
- 15 that solve this problem?
- 16 A You're asking a different question, I
- 17 think. You said put it in a different name.
- 18 Q Yeah, take it -- it's no longer
- 19 Kazmier Tooling, it would be Shawn O'Farrell?
- 20 A I guess that would generate a lot more
- 21 questions on our part, like what is Shawn O'Farrell's
- 22 business?

- 1 Q I rent space to Kazmier Tooling for office?
- 2 A I think we're getting into a lot of things.
- 3 Q I'm just looking for a simple solution to a
- 4 complex problem.
- JUDGE RILEY: Well, he can't provide that. He
- 6 can only answer questions to what he's testified to.
- 7 MR. O'FARRELL: All right.
- 8 JUDGE RILEY: Anything further?
- 9 MR. O'FARRELL: No.
- 10 JUDGE RILEY: Thank you again, Mr. Mueller.
- 11 Mr. Goldstein, do you have any other
- 12 witnesses?
- 13 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I have no other witnesses.
- 14 JUDGE RILEY: Mr. O'Farrell, did you have
- 15 anyone else you wanted to call?
- 16 MR. O'FARRELL: No. I'm here on my own.
- JUDGE RILEY: All right. We are pretty much at
- 18 the end of the testimony phase, then.
- 19 MR. GOLDSTEIN: You haven't ruled on the
- 20 admissibility.
- JUDGE RILEY: I understand. I want to get to
- 22 Mr. O'Farrell first because it's his case in chief.

- 1 Mr. O'Farrell, you've left me with
- 2 quite a number of documents, but I know that most of
- 3 them if not all of them have also been submitted by
- 4 Commonwealth Edison and have already been marked as
- 5 exhibits.
- 6 MR. O'FARRELL: Well, these are the bills that
- 7 I have currently and I would like an explanation of
- 8 that from Commonwealth Edison if I could have that.
- 9 JUDGE RILEY: I am sorry.
- 10 MR. O'FARRELL: On the current billing, we have
- 11 a delivery service by Commonwealth Edison that they
- 12 charge -- or they charge MC Squared who then charges
- me and I would like a detailed explanation if any of
- 14 these individuals here can explain that to me because
- 15 I have two or three different companies that provide
- 16 me with bills and they all have different categories
- in which there are fees attached to.
- JUDGE RILEY: One thing I noted through the
- 19 testimony is that the bill that you're contesting,
- the approximate \$2,000 and the \$86 a month going
- 21 forward is a direct product of a Commonwealth Edison
- 22 tariff.

- 1 MR. O'FARRELL: Right. But if Commonwealth
- 2 Edison is already charging me for usage of their
- 3 transformers in their billing, then I'm being charged
- 4 twice.
- 5 JUDGE RILEY: I'm not sure what you mean.
- 6 MR. O'FARRELL: All right. If you read their
- 7 line of billing there is -- can I bring that up to
- 8 you and let you read that -- there is different
- 9 categories in which they put in charges. It's a long
- 10 list of things with taxes and everything else. I
- 11 would like an explanation as to what these charges
- 12 pertain to and I believe that you will find that the
- 13 transformers is part of this service delivery charge
- 14 that they stack on because I do -- I don't pay a
- 15 minimum -- you know, a small electric bill, I pay a
- 16 pretty good sized electric bill and I believe that
- 17 part of that --
- JUDGE RILEY: So are you -- now, this is the
- 19 \$2,081.28 that you are contesting in your complaint?
- 20 MR. O'FARRELL: No. What I'm saying is that
- 21 they want to charge me rental on a transformer bank
- 22 that they call specific special equipment and I

- 1 believe I'm already paying that into the fees that
- 2 they charge me and I need an explanation from Edison
- 3 that proves my point or disproves my point.
- 4 JUDGE RILEY: Mr. Goldstein.
- 5 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Yes, I guess we could recall
- 6 Mr. Mueller and if Mr. O'Farrell would show him the
- 7 document, he could explain it.
- 8 JUDGE RILEY: Could you breakdown that bill,
- 9 because that's the \$2,081, that's what you're
- 10 contesting.
- MR. O'FARRELL: What I'm contesting is the
- 12 rental fees on the transformers which is back-pay
- 13 that Commonwealth Edison charges under --
- 14 JUDGE RILEY: You want a break down of the
- 15 charges on that bill.
- 16 MR. O'FARRELL: Those are delivery charges.
- 17 THE WITNESS: I'm looking at a bill and the top
- 18 part of the bill is delivery services from ComEd,
- it's from February 16th to March 16, 2011 for 28
- 20 days. There is four line items under delivery
- 21 services for ComEd. The first line item says
- 22 customer charge.

- 1 MR. O'FARRELL: Right.
- 2 THE WITNESS: That amount covers the cost of
- 3 your service connection, which is the wires and the
- 4 connection that is made that goes directly into your
- 5 building or the connection that is made at the
- 6 transformer.
- 7 MR. O'FARRELL: That's the rental charge for
- 8 that?
- 9 THE WITNESS: No. Let me just finished that.
- 10 Plus it also covers the cost of the customer
- 11 service -- the customer service cost that ComEd
- 12 incurs to provide customer service. It also covers
- 13 Illinois -- the State of Illinois mandated charges
- 14 for renewable energy resources, for low income
- 15 housing assistance plans.
- 16 MR. O'FARRELL: We're looking at now delivery
- charges for \$612, customer charges \$18.81.
- 18 THE WITNESS: And I'm trying to -- I'm still on
- 19 the first line item, customer charge, what goes into
- 20 that charge. I'm just giving you the items.
- MR. O'FARRELL: Delivery service.
- 22 THE WITNESS: Rights. It's the customer

- 1 charge, it's the first line under delivery service.
- 2 So all those things that I mentioned are recovered in
- 3 the customer charge line item.
- 4 The next line item is the standard
- 5 metering charge. That recovers the cost of the
- 6 standard meter necessary to meter your service at a
- 7 single point.
- 8 MR. O'FARRELL: Now, because I have two meters.
- 9 THE WITNESS: And the third line item, the
- 10 distribution facilities charge, that varies every
- 11 month based on your maximum kilowatt demand used and
- 12 it recovers the cost of the distribution system
- 13 that's off your property which is the substations,
- 14 wires, poles, cables and also the transformer, the
- 15 standard transformer that serves your business at
- 16 Kazmier Tooling. It recovers the cost of the off
- 17 property facilities, the poles, wires and cable and
- 18 the standard transformer that serves your business at
- 19 Kazmier.
- 20 MR. O'FARRELL: How does it separate from the
- 21 two of them?
- 22 THE WITNESS: The separation comes because you

- 1 have two transformers there.
- 2 MR. O'FARRELL: I have two sources of
- 3 electricity?
- 4 THE WITNESS: Correct. And that requires the
- 5 two transformers.
- 6 MR. O'FARRELL: And this is only based on one
- 7 of them or is this based on --
- 8 THE WITNESS: What you're paying for -- part of
- 9 what the distribution facilities charge is for the
- 10 single standard transformer, not both.
- MR. O'FARRELL: I don't understand. I'm really
- 12 confused now. I don't see a breakdown.
- 13 THE WITNESS: The distribution facilities
- 14 charge recovers in part the cost of the transformer
- that's necessary to serve the customer at a single
- 16 point.
- 17 MR. O'FARRELL: It's not based on the kVA use?
- 18 THE WITNESS: It is. You can see --
- 19 MR. O'FARRELL: Don't I need both sources for
- the kVA usage?
- 21 THE WITNESS: The total here, the 100 kW is the
- 22 total that was billed from both transformers,

- 1 correct.
- 2 MR. O'FARRELL: And they do recover costs for
- 3 both transformers?
- 4 THE WITNESS: No. The distribution facilities
- 5 charge recovers the cost of the standard transformer
- 6 that's needed to -- that would be needed to serve
- 7 your demand, your maximum demand.
- 8 MR. O'FARRELL: I'm confused again. I have two
- 9 sources. So this is -- is this a lump of the two
- 10 sources?
- 11 THE WITNESS: Right. In this month, okay, from
- 12 February to March the maximum demand that you set in
- 13 that time period was 101 kW.
- 14 MR. O'FARRELL: And you base the kW usage and
- 15 the amount you charge for the usage of the
- 16 transformer on the KW usage, right?
- 17 THE WITNESS: Right.
- MR. O'FARRELL: The rental or the charge that
- 19 you would take off of it.
- 20 THE WITNESS: Right. Part of the recovery
- 21 that's made in the distribution facilities charge is
- 22 for the standard transformer only, not --

- 1 MR. O'FARRELL: Am I wrong to think that it's
- 2 possible that you are recovering some of the costs of
- 3 the other transformers from this, too? Because the
- 4 one common source of electricity isn't capable of
- 5 giving me this kW, is it?
- 6 THE WITNESS: This amount here is the combined
- 7 amount from both.
- 8 MR. O'FARRELL: I said would it be wrong for me
- 9 to assume that one source, the common source could
- 10 not possibly provide this amount of electricity and
- 11 you base the kilowatt hours the way you charge it and
- 12 you deduct the charge of the transformer from the
- 13 kilowatt hours. So it's not possible for the single
- 14 common use of the transformer to provide me with all
- 15 this electricity. So you are taking part of the
- 16 charge for the transformers from the other bank
- 17 because that would be the only way you could do that.
- 18 THE WITNESS: The community bank that you're
- 19 referring to could not supply 100 kW but the other
- 20 transformer could clearly supply that and more.
- 21 MR. O'FARRELL: So you are taking part of
- 22 that -- part of that fee is for the total use of --

- 1 the fee for the transformers coming out of that cost.
- 2 There is a fee that -- you take out a fee for the
- 3 single point of transformer.
- 4 THE WITNESS: No.
- 5 MR. O'FARRELL: There is a pull for that,
- 6 right?
- 7 THE WITNESS: The way the tariffs are designed
- 8 and the costs are allocated is that in the
- 9 distribution facilities charge every customer gets an
- 10 allowance for a standard transformer. And over the
- 11 course of the year, they look and they see as a
- 12 company what is the maximum demand that is necessary
- 13 that needs to be met with the equipment serving that
- 14 customer and that's called the standard transformer.
- MR. O'FARRELL: This is my argument. My
- 16 argument is that I paid for these transformers in
- 17 every bill, a portion of the transformer.
- 18 THE WITNESS: No. The distribution facilities
- 19 charge only recovers the cost of the standard
- 20 transformer.
- MR. O'FARRELL: Now, which is the standard
- 22 transformer?

- 1 THE WITNESS: In your case, your standard
- 2 transformer today is 3-37 kVA transformers.
- 3 MR. O'FARRELL: So I pay today and for the last
- 4 17 years I paid for those or have been paying for the
- 5 cost of those.
- 6 THE WITNESS: No, for the last 17 years you
- 7 have been paying a distribution facilities charge,
- 8 but you have not been paying the rental to recover
- 9 the cost of the non-standard transformer.
- 10 MR. O'FARRELL: Again, there was no rental.
- 11 JUDGE RILEY: This is argumentative.
- MR. O'FARRELL: You keep bringing up something
- 13 that doesn't exist is argumentative. Here it is, I
- 14 am paying rental.
- THE WITNESS: There is no transformer rental
- 16 listed.
- MR. O'FARRELL: There is a charge in the
- 18 distribution facilities charge that accommodates the
- 19 transformers, that has a portion of it to pay for the
- 20 transformers.
- 21 THE WITNESS: It does recover the cost, but
- 22 only of the standard transformer.

- 1 MR. O'FARRELL: The argument would be what.
- 2 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Judge, he's just arguing.
- JUDGE RILEY: We can only have one person
- 4 talking at a time.
- 5 Do you have an objection,
- 6 Mr. Goldstein?
- 7 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Yes. Mr. Mueller has been
- 8 trying to assist in explaining what's shown on the
- 9 bill. Mr. O'Farrell continues to argue with him
- about what he has stated and we're going nowhere.
- 11 He's stated exactly what the charges are several
- 12 times, lets move on to the next charge.
- 13 JUDGE RILEY: Mr. Mueller, do the distribution
- 14 facilities charges have anything to do with the
- 15 rental charge?
- 16 THE WITNESS: The distribution facilities
- 17 charge, part of that cost is for a standard
- 18 transformer. Everybody is entitled to a standard
- 19 transformer and that's what the distribution
- 20 facilities charge recovers.
- Now, in the case of a customer that
- 22 has more or in excess of a standard transformer,

- 1 that's when a rental would apply in addition to the
- 2 distribution facilities charge.
- JUDGE RILEY: And is that what the \$2,081.28 is
- 4 for on this bill?
- 5 THE WITNESS: The \$2,000 was intended to be the
- 6 back-bill for that rental.
- JUDGE RILEY: And that's for nonstandard?
- 8 THE WITNESS: For nonstandard.
- 9 JUDGE RILEY: And this also says it's a service
- 10 estimate; is that correct.
- 11 THE WITNESS: You're looking at the electronic
- 12 record for the service estimate request from '93; is
- 13 that right?
- 14 JUDGE RILEY: Well, I don't know. What I'm
- looking at is a category two-thirds of the way down
- 16 the bill called miscellaneous and underneath it says
- 17 Service Estimate Request \$2,081.28?
- 18 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 19 JUDGE RILEY: Which is the precise amount that
- 20 Mr. O'Farrell is complaining about.
- 21 THE WITNESS: Correct.
- JUDGE RILEY: So that is an estimate.

- 1 THE WITNESS: That is a calculated amount based
- on what the standard transformer is that's necessary
- 3 to serve his load, his actual load, and the
- 4 transformers that are actually in place out there at
- 5 Kazmier.
- 6 JUDGE RILEY: You say those are for standard
- 7 transformers?
- 8 THE WITNESS: It's the difference in the rental
- 9 between the standard transformer and the transformers
- 10 that are actually out there at Kazmier.
- 11 JUDGE RILEY: Okay.
- MR. O'FARRELL: We have a standard bank of
- 13 transformers, which are the three transformers in the
- 14 bank that I had installed back in 2003 and we have a
- 15 common, those are my transformers, that's what you're
- 16 saying in the billing, those are what the charges are
- 17 based on. And then what you want to charge me rental
- 18 for is for the common use transformers.
- 19 THE WITNESS: Again, the --
- 20 MR. O'FARRELL: Because that's what you're
- 21 stating to me. You're telling me that this billing
- is based on the bank of transformers that I had

- 1 installed.
- 2 JUDGE RILEY: Let's Mr. Mueller explain it
- 3 again.
- 4 THE WITNESS: It's the difference in the rental
- 5 amounts between the standard transformers that in
- 6 1993 were determined to be 3-167 kVA transformers and
- 7 it's the difference between that and what's actually
- 8 out there, which is the community bank and the
- $9 \quad 3-167s.$
- 10 MR. O'FARRELL: Right. And we can only have
- one point and if we had one point we would not be
- 12 incurring these charges. If I had the size of
- transformers I have now, if I only had one source of
- 14 power coming into the building and I didn't have that
- 15 common source of power we wouldn't be here right now,
- 16 correct?
- 17 THE WITNESS: If you had only a single point of
- 18 service and that single point was sized to what your
- 19 actual load --
- 20 MR. O'FARRELL: What if it's not sized?
- JUDGE RILEY: Let him finish.
- 22 THE WITNESS: And that transformer is sized to

- 1 what your actual load is, which is what you're paying
- 2 for every month then, yes, there would be no rental.
- 3 MR. O'FARRELL: So, again, this is based on my
- 4 minimum use, and that's what I'm trying to get from
- 5 you. I want to know what would be the minimum
- 6 trigger to take this away? What would I have to
- 7 provide by electricity to bring it up to have this go
- 8 away.
- 9 THE WITNESS: If you were to combine your load
- 10 that serves from the 120/240 volt transformer bank,
- 11 which is the community bank that you referred to, if
- 12 you were to be able to combine that load with your
- 13 other service point, serve from the 277/480 volt
- 14 service, okay, and you would have to do something
- internally to, you know, make the transformation
- 16 voltages compatible and you took service from just
- 17 the single point and ComEd provided the transformers
- 18 that was matching the load that you have currently.
- 19 MR. O'FARRELL: The question here is that the
- 20 load that I have now is my maximum load. I'm not
- 21 using that now. I'm not saying that it will never
- 22 happen that I won't.

- 1 THE WITNESS: So the question would be --
- 2 MR. O'FARRELL: Where does it go away and when
- 3 does it come back, what would trigger it?
- 4 THE WITNESS: I guess we would ask you the
- 5 question do you want to continue to use the 3-167 kVA
- 6 transformers in anticipation of growing your load or
- 7 would you want ComEd --
- 8 MR. O'FARRELL: I have to have an answer to the
- 9 question.
- 10 THE WITNESS: Or would you want ComEd to
- install a smaller transformer that would match your
- load today and then there would be no rentals?
- 13 MR. O'FARRELL: Wouldn't it be feasible for
- 14 Commonwealth Edison to come in and do it at their
- 15 cost?
- 16 THE WITNESS: No. If you want the transformer
- 17 to be replaced, there would be a charge to replace
- 18 the transformer, but then you also would incur the
- 19 cost with an electrician or whoever to combine your
- 20 two services internally.
- 21 MR. O'FARRELL: At the point that I had this
- 22 service installed I was not told that. I don't know

- 1 if that was the practice at the time in 1993 or not,
- 2 but that was not even brought into consideration.
- The other thing I was told --
- 4 JUDGE RILEY: This is again -- I understand.
- 5 Mr. O'Farrell, this is argument again. You're going
- 6 off on a narrative. You can only -- this is a
- 7 question/answer session.
- 8 MR. O'FARRELL: The original audit it was
- 9 determined that it was uncovered and I don't
- 10 understand that because every bill lists two meters
- 11 and two points of service.
- 12 JUDGE RILEY: Did you have anything further for
- 13 Mr. Mueller?
- 14 MR. O'FARRELL: No. The only thing is that the
- 15 bill here takes into account for the transformer.
- 16 JUDGE RILEY: Mr. Goldstein, do I have a copy
- or were you going to offer a copy of the tariff that
- was in effect in 1993?
- 19 THE WITNESS: The tariff from 1993 we do not
- 20 have that here.
- JUDGE RILEY: Do you have a date for that
- tariff that I could look it up? Is it still on file?

- 1 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I doubt it.
- 2 THE WITNESS: We may have historical records of
- 3 it, but I can't tell you exactly what the effective
- 4 date back in 1993 was.
- 5 JUDGE RILEY: It wasn't necessarily filed in
- 6 1993, it might have been filed prior to that.
- 7 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 8 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I think that we could ask
- 9 Mr. Mueller which tariff is in effect which would be
- 10 effective to back-bill the customer for the two years
- 11 that we're back billing.
- 12 JUDGE RILEY: Mr. Mueller, can you answer that?
- 13 THE WITNESS: Well, in addition to the tariff
- 14 that's filed with the Commission the utilities in
- 15 Illinois must follow the Commission's rule as stated
- in 83 Illinois Administrative Code. And in Part 280,
- 17 Section 100 it does give the utility the ability to
- 18 back-bill a nonresidential customer for up to two
- 19 years after the service has been provided.
- 20 MR. GOLDSTEIN: That's Exhibit 2, ComEd
- 21 Exhibit 2?
- THE WITNESS: Yes.

- 1 MR. GOLDSTEIN: And what was the applicable
- 2 tariff if you were to go back the two years and be
- 3 allowed to back-bill?
- 4 THE WITNESS: Rider NS.
- 5 MR. GOLDSTEIN: And that is also part of what
- 6 we provided to the judge today and as part of the
- 7 record here, which is ComEd Exhibit 1.
- 8 JUDGE RILEY: So it's my understanding then
- 9 that ComEd Exhibit 1 supercedes the 1993 tariff for
- 10 the purposes of back-billing for the two years?
- 11 MR. GOLDSTEIN: For purposes of back-billing
- 12 for the two years, yes. I would note for the record,
- 13 Judge, that the effective date of the Rider NS tariff
- 14 that we've been discussing this morning is January
- 15 15, 2009. And as Mr. Mastache has so testified, this
- 16 billing goes back from March
- of 2009 forward to March of 2011.
- 18 JUDGE RILEY: Off the record.
- 19 (Whereupon, a discussion was had
- off the record.)
- JUDGE RILEY: All right. Back on the record.
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: Judge, I have been advised that

- 1 the tariff that was in effect back in 1993 was
- 2 something called Rider 6, it's now Rider NS. My
- 3 understanding is -- and I haven't been able to verify
- 4 it because I haven't seen the document -- but the
- 5 Rider NS tariff today is exactly the same as the
- 6 tariff that existed back in 1993, it's just changed
- 7 in the name as opposed to anything else. We will
- 8 attempt to find the rider that was in effect in 1993
- 9 if you wish.
- JUDGE RILEY: Mr. O'Farrell, are you willing to
- 11 accept that representation, that the rider that was
- in effect in 1993 is precisely the same in wording as
- 13 the ComEd Exhibit 1.
- 14 MR. O'FARRELL: I quess I will.
- JUDGE RILEY: Mr. Goldstein, you're saying the
- 16 only thing that's changed on it was the designation
- 17 itself.
- 18 MR. GOLDSTEIN: That's correct. I think that
- 19 as I understand Mr. O'Farrell's problem it seems that
- 20 he's confused as to -- he thinks that the
- 21 back-billing is based upon his change in load and
- 22 it's not. The fact, and I think you pointed out in

- 1 your examination of our witnesses, that from 1993
- 2 forward to earlier this year ComEd failed to bill for
- 3 these rental services, these NS -- what are now
- 4 non-standard facilities charges. What happened was,
- 5 as you described, there was a back room audit. It
- 6 was determined that there were NS charges applicable
- 7 to the facilities that Mr. O'Farrell has in place and
- 8 had in place for all these years. ComEd did fail to
- 9 bill for those 280.100 allows for ComEd to go back
- 10 two years from the time it discovers this problem and
- 11 bill the customer for this. And I think that pretty
- 12 much concludes where we're at in this case.
- 13 JUDGE RILEY: Was that your closing argument?
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: I'm just saying that
- 15 Mr. O'Farrell has been doing the same kind of thing
- 16 and I figured I would take this opportunity for
- 17 myself.
- JUDGE RILEY: All right. Mr. O'Farrell that
- 19 pretty much concludes the matter.
- 20 MR. O'FARRELL: To answer the comment on him
- 21 now is it true that I could say that Commonwealth
- 22 Edison was looking more for other ways to increase

- 1 their income besides charging electrical rates as
- of -- after the recession of '08?
- JUDGE RILEY: I got the impression that you
- 4 were getting at that over the course of this hearing.
- 5 I don't think that there was any basis in the answers
- 6 that I heard to believe that they're simply trying to
- 7 up their profits simply because of the economic
- 8 downturn that the county has been through. I don't
- 9 think there is any basis for that at all.
- 10 MR. O'FARRELL: You don't?
- JUDGE RILEY: No. Not, in the testimony I've
- 12 heard.
- MR. O'FARRELL: It's just convenient, the
- 14 timing?
- JUDGE RILEY: No. I mean you can argue that if
- 16 you want.
- 17 MR. O'FARRELL: The timing speaks for itself,
- 18 the economy spoke for itself.
- 19 JUDGE RILEY: The next order of business, this
- 20 Commonwealth Edison bill with an issue date of
- 21 March 28, 2011 I want to mark this as your exhibit,
- 22 Complainant's Exhibit 1.

- 1 MR. O'FARRELL: Yes.
- JUDGE RILEY: And Mr. Goldstein, do you have
- 3 any objection -- I take it Mr. O'Farrell you're
- 4 moving for the admission of this exhibit into
- 5 evidence?
- 6 MR. O'FARRELL: Yes.
- 7 JUDGE RILEY: Okay. Mr. Goldstein, do you have
- 8 any objection.
- 9 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I have no objection.
- 10 (Whereupon, Complainant's
- 11 Exhibit No. 1 was marked and
- 12 admitted into evidence.)
- JUDGE RILEY: And that completes your case in
- 14 chief Mr. O'Farrell?
- MR. O'FARRELL: Can we enter their documents
- 16 that they mailed us concerning -- the original
- 17 without my name on it as evidence, too, saying that
- 18 there was something out there and we never received
- 19 it.
- 20 MR. GOLDSTEIN: This was given to him yesterday
- 21 by Commonwealth Edison.
- JUDGE RILEY: This is ComEd Exhibit 4. This

- 1 going to be moved for admission.
- 2 MR. O'FARRELL: This is something that I never
- 3 received.
- 4 JUDGE RILEY: We have testimony as to that.
- 5 Mr. Goldstein.
- 6 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I've already moved for the
- 7 admission of exhibits 1 through 4 into evidence.
- JUDGE RILEY: Mr. O'Farrell, do you have any
- 9 objection to all or any part of these exhibits? Have
- 10 you had a chance to look at.
- 11 MR. O'FARRELL: No.
- 12 JUDGE RILEY: Then Commonwealth Edison Exhibits
- 13 1 through 4 are admitted into evidence in their
- 14 entirety.
- 15 (Whereupon, Respondent's Exhibit
- 16 Nos. 1-4 were admitted into
- 17 evidence.)
- JUDGE RILEY: Now, the last order of business
- 19 and I've already gotten quite a bit of this. Do the
- 20 parties want to present closing arguments or do they
- 21 want to file closing briefs?
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: I've had pretty much a closing

- 1 argument, Judge, but I would respond if Mr. O'Farrell
- 2 has anything further he wishes to say.
- JUDGE RILEY: Mr. O'Farrell, you have a
- 4 choice --
- 5 MR. O'FARRELL: I've been in business
- 6 since '93. We set this up then for me to be in
- 7 business, all right. With the discussions between my
- 8 contractor and Commonwealth Edison it was determined
- 9 that that bank of transformers would serve me well.
- 10 Now, as I grew there was never a complaint, as the
- 11 source of their income grew they never complained.
- 12 But with the downturn in the economy in '08, my
- 13 actual downturn probably happened in 2002, but it got
- 14 bad, I laid people off in '08 to help me survive and
- it's slowly but surely coming back, I hope our
- 16 government does the right thing so that it does
- 17 continue to come back. But is Commonwealth Edison
- 18 given the right to back-charge for services they
- 19 provided 20 years ago and come back and create a
- 20 situation that brings them more income on a trying
- 21 business now that is, you know, forcing itself -- you
- 22 know trying to come back and make a living and put

- 1 more people to work and working against the flow of
- 2 water, they're trying to push me back and I don't
- 3 understand.
- 4 JUDGE RILEY: Does that conclude your remarks?
- 5 MR. O'FARRELL: Yes.
- 6 JUDGE RILEY: Okay. The last order of business
- 7 is just to advise the parties of the procedure from
- 8 this point on. I'm going to wait until I get a copy
- 9 of the transcript which is roughly two weeks from
- 10 today and I'm not going to write a word until I've
- 11 thoroughly digested what's in the transcript.
- 12 There's been a lot of technical information and it's
- 13 going to take a lot of study. Once I do have a
- 14 command of the testimony, I'm going to prepare what
- is called a proposed order and I will issue the
- 16 proposed order through the Clerk's Office to each of
- 17 the parties and at that point whoever -- let me start
- 18 over.
- 19 When the parties receive that proposed
- 20 order they are entitled to file exceptions and
- 21 contest anything in the order that they think that I
- 22 have misinterpreted, misunderstood or any rulings or

- 1 any conclusions that I have drawn. And once I
- 2 receive those exceptions back there will be a
- 3 deadline for the submission of exceptions which you
- 4 would file through the Clerk's Office again. And
- 5 once I receive the exceptions, then I will prepare a
- 6 final order for the Commission and the Commission
- 7 will rule on it in a bench session that I'm certain
- 8 will be well into after the first of year at this
- 9 point.
- 10 Any further questions?
- 11 MR. O'FARRELL: In the meantime if they
- 12 approach me again with a settlement of some type can
- we agree to something?
- 14 JUDGE RILEY: You can settle this matter any
- 15 time up until the Commission issues that final order.
- 16 MR. O'FARRELL: Okay. That's what I needed to
- 17 hear.
- JUDGE RILEY: If there is nothing further I'll
- 19 direct the Court Reporter the mark this matter heard
- 20 and taken. Thank you.
- 21 (Heard and Taken.)

22